

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1, 4-10, 13, 14, and 26-31 and for the indication of allowability of claim 41. Claim 38 is amended. Claims 2, 3, 11, 12, 15-25, 32-37, 40, 41, and 46-93 are cancelled without prejudice to their underlying subject matter. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any and all cancelled claims in continuing applications. Please consider the following remarks.

The Office Action indicates that claim 44 is withdrawn from consideration because claim 38 has been newly rejected. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this withdrawal in light of the amendment to claim 38 and the arguments for patentability set forth below and further requests that claim 44 be reinstated as allowed.

Claim 41 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 41 depends from independent claim 38, which has been amended to incorporate the subject matter from claim 41 identified in the Office Action as allowable and to correct antecedent basis. This rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claims 15 and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,166,405 ("Kuriyama et al.") in view of U.S. Patent 5,780,902 ("Komuro") and U.S. Patent 6,521,926 ("Sasaki"). Claims 15-20 have been cancelled.

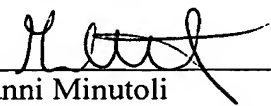
Claims 16, 32-34, 37-39, 42, 43, and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriyama et al. in view of Komuro, Sasaki, and U.S. Patent 5,793,088 ("Choi"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 16 and 32-37 have been cancelled. Independent claim 38, from which claims 39-45 depend, is amended to incorporate the subject matter from claim 41 identified in the Office Action as allowable. Claim 38 and each claim depending therefrom is in allowable condition. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 38, 39, and 42-45 be withdrawn and these claims passed to issue.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a notice of allowance be immediately mailed for all pending claims, i.e., claims 1, 4-10, 13, 14, 26-31, 38, 39, and 42-45.

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Respectfully submitted,

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